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Nogaro, B., and Moyne, M. *Les Régimes Douaniers.* Pp. 320. Price 3.50.

Fr. Paris: A. Colin, 1910.

This handy and clearly written little book on tariff systems (260 pages, without the appendices), is intended mainly for French readers and has reference chiefly to French tariff legislation and administration. The definitions and preliminary chapters, however, are of general interest; and the sections on commercial treaties, the most-favored nation clause, preferential tariffs, differential and compensatory duties, and anti-dumping laws, will appeal to American readers. Brief but illuminating accounts are given, moreover, of the present tariff policies of France, Germany, the United States, Canada and Great Britain.

The second part of the book, containing about 100 pages, deals with the administration of customs laws in France. In analyzing the forces that led to the French tariff law of March 29, 1910, the authors, both of whom are professors in the University of Montpelier, are of the opinion that "the tariff revision of 1910 had its origin not in circumstances arising within the country, but was due principally to the situation to which France was reduced by the tariff legislation of foreign countries. . . . The upward modification of European tariffs had become general, and our own products, although sometimes enjoying the benefit of the 'most-favored nation' treatment, were more heavily taxed abroad than foreign goods imported to France. Moreover, the extreme specialization introduced by the new tariff laws and commercial treaties was such that French goods were frequently excluded from the benefits of the most-favored nation treatment." Foreign trusts, the practice of dumping, and a vexatious administration of the customs laws by other nations are said also to have worked disaster to French export trade. The law of 1910, therefore, was in a sense a retaliatory measure, hastened by an increase of protectionist sentiment and influence in France.

In view of the recent enunciation in this country, by the Republican party, of the principle that protection should be so adjusted as to equal the difference between the domestic and the foreign cost of production, it is interesting to note that ex-Minister Meline speaks of the new French duties as "scientific," that is, as "equal to the difference between French and foreign costs of production."

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Osborn, C. S. *The Andean Land.* 2 Vols. Pp. xxviii, 643. Price, \$5.00.

Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1909.

These two volumes do not pretend to be an exhaustive treatise on South America. They contain the impressions of a keen observer, who combines an appreciation of the picturesque with a great number of incisive and shrewd comments on national characteristics and trade and commercial

possibilities. The most interesting chapters are those dealing with the countries of the west coast of South America.

The great weakness of American writers in dealing with the Latin-American countries has been their inability to appreciate a point of view different from their own, and to judge South American development exclusively by American standards. This danger Mr. Osborn has happily avoided, and it lends to his book exceptional value as an introduction to the subject. Books such as these, while they do not give to the reader a very deep knowledge of Latin-American civilization, perform the equally useful service of awakening greater interest in the growing significance of these countries. Mr. Osborn's book adds to the list of descriptive works which has been increasing so rapidly within recent years. We are now prepared, however, for a more serious monographie treatment, not only of each of the countries, but of each phase of national life as it expresses itself in Central and South America. Until we have such a series of monographs, students of Latin-American civilization cannot hope to form an accurate judgment as to the real significance of the political, economic and social development that is taking place to the south of the United States.

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Quinton, R. F. *Crime and Criminals, 1876-1910.* Pp. xvi, 259. Price, \$1.50.
New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1910.

The author of this book served for twenty-five years as a medical officer in the Portsmouth, Millbank, Hull, Manchester, Liverpool, Wandsworth and Parkhurst prisons, and was subsequently for about nine years governor of Holloway Prison in London. This book gives in a somewhat discursive fashion many of his experiences and opinions.

The first two chapters contain statistics of the population of prisons which seem to indicate that crime has decreased in England during the last thirty years. This decrease is attributed in the main to rescue work done for boys who are likely to become criminals and also to improvement in the administration of prisons. In the third chapter prison labor is discussed. He condemns unproductive forms of labor, such as working on the tread-wheel, which existed in English prisons when he commenced his service in them.

In the next chapter the professional criminal who is to be found usually in the convict prisons is discussed. He points out the attractions a life of crime has for such individuals and describes the excellent conduct within the prison which characterizes many of these criminals.

The fifth chapter is devoted to a discussion of the habitual petty offenders to be found usually in local prisons, such as vagrants and drunkards. He describes the chronic fatigue which seems to characterize them and points out very wisely the utter uselessness of many times repeated short imprisonments for this type of criminal. In the next two chapters the author describes